

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 04574 101032Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 /057 W

-----020737 101035Z /21

O R 092140Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7840

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY LAPAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 4574

EO 11652 NA

TAGS PINS PINT BR

SUBJECT: GOB ENDS REMAINING PRESS CENSORSHIP

REF BRASILIA 1151

1. PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SPOKESMAN COL LUDWIG CONFIRMED AFTERNOON JUNE 8 THAT GOB FORMALLY ENDED REMAINING CENSORSHIP ON ALL WRITTEN MEDIA EARLIER THIS WEEK. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, DIRECT CENSORSHIP OF MOST WRITTEN MEDIA ENDED IN NOVEMBER 1975. ONLY PUBLICATIONS REMAINING UNDER CENSORSHIP UNTIL THIS WEEK WERE: A) RIO'S MORNING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DAAILY "TRIBUNA DA IMPRENSA" (LEFTIST, STRONGLY CRITICAL OF GOB); B) SAO PAULO WEEKLY TABLOID "MOVIMENTO" (MARXIST RADICAL, TENDING TO MAOIST); AND C) "O SAO PAULO", OFFICIAL ORGAN OF ARCHDIOCESE OF SAO PAULO, WHICH ENCOMPASSED VIEWS RANGING FROM FAR RIGHT TO FAR LEFT OF POLITICAL SPECTRUM, OFTEN CRTICAL OF GOB.

2. JUNE 9 EDITORIAL REACTION HAS, IN GENERAL, BEEN ONE OF QUALIFIED

PRAISE FOR GOB'S "MOST WELCOME BUT TARDY" DECISION. RIO'S LARGE JORNAL DO BRASIL, HOWEVER, RESPONDED WITH GENEROUS PRAISE FOR PRESIDENT GEISEL WHO, PAPER STATED, PERSONALLY INSISTED ON ENDING CENSORSHIP DESPITE STRONG PRESSURES FROM UNIDENTIFIED "POLITICAL ALLIES AND COLLABORATORS".

3. COMMENT: DIRECT BUT ERRATIC "ON PREMISES" CENSORSHIP OF PRESS BEGAN DAY AFTER ISSUANCE OF INSTITUTIONAL ACT NO.5 ON DECEMBER 13, 1968. CENSORSHIP WAS SYSTEMATIZED ON SEPTEMBER 14, 1972, (DURING MEDICI ADMINISTRATION) AND WAS APPLIED THROUGHOUT MEDIA UNTIL NOVEMBER 1, 1975, WHEN (UNDER GEISEL) IT WAS LIFTED ON ALL BUT ABOVE THREE PUBLICATIONS. ECONOMIC PRESSURES AND OTHER INDIECT FORMS OF CENSHRSHIP REMAIN AVAILABLE TO GOB, OF COURSE, BUT WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY COMPLAINTS ON THIS SCORE OVER PAST TWO AND A HALF YEARS. IN CONFIRMING GOB'S DECISION, WHICH WAS APPRENTLY MADE KNOWN TO AFFECTED PUBLICATIONS IN VERY INFORMAL MANNER, COL. LUDWIG SAID MEASURE WAS TAKEN IN CONTEXT OF THE "GRADUALISM AND PROGRESSIVIS M OF THE PROCESS OF POLITICAL OPENING BEING CONDUCTED BY PRESIDENT GEISEL".

4. AS REPORTED EARLIER (REFTEL, GOB HAS SINCE JANUARY RELAXED ITS DIRECT CENSORSHIP OF RADIO AND TV. HOWEVER, ALTHOUGH POLITICAL NEWS REPORTING HAS INCREASED ON ELECTRONIC MEDIA, LATTER IS STILL VERY MUCH UNDER CONTROL. MOST RECENT EXAMPLE WAS APPARENTLY EXPLICIT PROHIBITION AGAINST COVERING LAST MONTH'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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METALWORKERS' STRIKES IN SAO PAULO. BEYOND THAT, STATION OWNERS CAREFULLY APPLY SELF-CENSORSHIP TO THE CONTENT OF THEIR PROGRAMS. SAYRE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CENSORSHIP, GOVERNMENT REFORM, THE PRESS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 BRASILIA 1151  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
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